

ABSTRACT

This fuel assembly for a pressurized water nuclear reactor comprises fuel rods which are arranged at the nodes of a substantially regular network which has a polygonal outer 5 contour, the fuel rods containing uranium which is enriched in isotope 235 and not containing any plutonium before the assembly is used in a reactor. The rods are distributed in at least a first central group which is constituted by fuel rods which have a first level of nuclear reactivity, and 10 an outer peripheral layer of fuel rods which have a level/levels of nuclear reactivity which is/are strictly less than the first level of reactivity.

15